

A single female specimen. The pouch is filled with a single layer of very large ova (10 millim. in diameter), sixteen in number. From the size and small number of the ova it may be safely predicted that the young undergo the whole of the metamorphoses within the pouch, as in *N. oviferum*, which is the nearest ally of *N. fissipes*.

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VI.—Description of two new Snakes from Hongkong, and Note on the Dentition of *Hydrophis viperina*. By G. A. BOULENGER.

THE snakes described below were obtained, through the kind mediation of Dr. J. Anderson, F.R.S., from the Directors of the City Hall Museum, Hongkong. They were labelled as from Hongkong, presented to the City Hall Museum by C. Ford, Esq.

*Achalinus rufescens*.

Head narrow, elongate. Suture between the internasals twice as long as that between the præfrontals; frontal broader than long, half as long as the parietals; only the upper anterior temporal in contact with the eye; three shields bordering the parietals on each side, the third very large and separated from its fellow by a small azygos occipital; five upper labials, third and fourth entering the eye, fifth much elongate; five lower labials, third much elongate, first in contact with its fellow behind the mental; three pairs of large chin-shields, succeeded by the ventrals, first and second longer than broad, third as long as broad. Scales strongly keeled, some distinctly tricarinate, in twenty-five longitudinal series; on the anterior half of the body each ventral scute is in contact with the second series of scales. Ventrals 136; anal single; subcaudals 82. Uniform pale reddish brown above; upper labials and a spot on the temple yellow; uniform yellowish beneath.

Total length 290 millim.; tail 80.

CALAMOXYDRUS, g. n. (*Homalopsinarum*).

Teeth in jaws and palate small, equal. Head rather elongate, slightly distinct from neck; eyes very small, with round

pupil, separated from the labials by suboculars; nostrils superior, pierced in the upper part of the nasal; a pair of internasals; a single præfrontal; rostral small, not prominent; loreal, præ- and postocular present. Scales finely striated and feebly keeled (in seventeen rows). Tail moderate, tapering to a fine point. Anal and subcaudals divided.

An annectant form between the *Calamariinæ* and the *Homalopsinæ*.

*Calamohydrus Andersonii*.

Præfrontal more than twice as broad as long, in contact with the posterior border of the nasals and wedged in between the tear-shaped internasals, which form a suture anteriorly; frontal pentagonal, a little longer than broad, and a little shorter than the suture between the parietals; eye surrounded by a small supraocular, which is more than twice as long as broad, a præocular, two suboculars, and a postocular; loreal elongate, more than twice as long as deep, in contact with the third and fourth labials; temporals 1 + 2; eight upper labials, fifth below the eye; nine lower labials, five anterior in contact with the chin-shields, first in contact with its fellow behind the mental; two pairs of chin-shields, anterior large, posterior small and separated by three scales. Scales in seventeen rows, without apical grooves; the keel very feeble, absent on the hinder third of the scale. Ventrals 161; subcaudals 58. Blackish above, each scale edged with whitish; lower parts whitish; chin and lower labials brown.

Total length 240 millim.; tail 45.

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The same collection contained an adult specimen of a rare sea-snake, *Hydrophis viperina*, Schmidt (*Disteira præscutata*, D. & B.), which reveals a new type of dentition. The maxillary of the *Hydrophides* is armed, as is well known, with a pair of grooved fangs, followed after an interval by a series of much smaller solid teeth. In *H. viperina* we have instead a series of four equidistant, subequal, grooved fangs. The *Calamaria*-like *Ognodon vitianus*, Peters, was the only snake known to possess a series of grooved fangs; but the number and proportions of these fangs are very different from what is shown by *Hydrophis viperina*.

Schmidt, the original describer of this species, notices that the teeth are small and show no trace of a groove, and regards

the snake as non-poisonous. I find, however, a large poison-gland; and the author's mistake is probably due to the similarity between the maxillary teeth, which is in striking contrast to the abruptly enlarged anterior fangs of ordinary *Hydrophides*.

Although I am unable to find any external characters by which to separate *H. viperina* from its allies, I should have proposed a new generic name were it not that *Disteira*, Lacép., specimens of the type species of which I have unfortunately no means of investigating, may possibly possess a dentition similar to that of *H. viperina*.

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VII.—On the Organic and Inorganic Changes of *Parkeria*, together with Further Observations on the Nature of the Opaque Scarlet Spherules in Foraminifera. By H. J. CARTER, F.R.S.\*

[Plate V.]

IN the 'Annals' for March and April last (vol. i., 1888) I described in separate communications "Two new Genera allied to *Loftusia*," viz. *Stoliczkiella Theobaldi* and *Millarella cantabrigiensis*, and the "Nature of the Opaque Scarlet Spherules found in the Chambers and Canals of many Fossilized Foraminifera," the former accompanied by a footnote (p. 180) in which allusion is made to other specimens of *Parkeria* in which *Millarella* appeared to be present in the condition of a "foreign nucleus" over which the *Parkeria* had grown; but it now seems to me (after examination of more specimens of the same kind) that this "nucleus" must have been a subsequent instead of a primary formation, from which the *Millarella* might have spread itself throughout the whole of the *Parkeria*, until the structure of the latter had become obliterated—of course in a living or unfossilized state.

The structure of *Millarella* (for the term here must be used in a generic sense) may be stated to present itself under the form of a minutely reticulated rhizopodous mycelium of a brown colour (Pl. V. fig. 9, *a a*), accompanied more or less

\* In this communication it should be remembered that I am treating of "Transformations" only, and not of the natural structure of *Parkeria*, which should be learnt from Prof. Nicholson's illustrated description of this fossil in the 'Annals' for January 1888, vol. i. p. 1, pl. iii.